



Regional Service Council Minutes

Region # 13

Meeting Date: Friday, July 18, 2008
Meeting Location: Monroe County DCS
1783 W. 3rd Street
Bloomington, IN 47404
Training Room

Council Members Present:

Doris Parlette, Region 13 Regional Manager; Terrie Decker Director, Greene County; Steve Adams, Director, Lawrence County; Debbie Dailey, Director, Brown / Owen County; Kelly Leonhard, Greene County CASA Director, Judge Judy Stewart, Brown County Circuit Court; Caren Stoll, Supervisor, Monroe County (temporary membership); Angie Baugh, Owen County Foster Parent;

Council Members Absent:

Judge Stephen Galvin, Monroe County Circuit Court; Jack Maxwell, FCM Lawrence County

Others In Attendance:

Chris Gaal, Monroe County Prosecutor; Lara Weaver, Victim Assistance Monroe County Prosecutor's Office; Christine McAfee, Monroe County Probation Juvenile Division; Tom Rhodes, Monroe County Probation and Community Corrections; D.K. McElroy, Owen County Probation; Sonya Seymour, Supervisor, Monroe County; Heather Perkins, Supervisor, Greene County; Cathy Arney, Supervisor, Owen County; Shirley Pry and Julie Miller, Ireland Home-Based Services; Carmen Young, Resource Residential Treatment Facility;

Welcome and Opening Announcements:

The meeting was brought to order by Regional Manager, Doris Parlette. Doris welcomed the members and attendees, and asked everyone to introduce themselves, and to state their position and the county they serve. Introductions were completed, and the meeting proceeded to the next order of business.

Review April Minutes :

Copies of the April minutes were distributed for the council to review. There were no changes, additions, or corrections. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Judge Judy Stewart, seconded by Debbie Dailey. The council voted, and the minutes were approved as read.

Role of the Regional Services Council :

The Regional Services Council originated in 2006 in 18 counties; however, due to recent legislation with regard to House Bill 1001 the role of the council is changing. The RSC is now set out in state statute as of July 1, 2008.

The protocol of the RSC is to assist in the process of determining local service availability, delivery and effectiveness to ensure that needs are met in every county regardless of size.

Currently, the protocol is being re-written, but hopefully will be completed by September 2008.

In Regions consisting of three or more counties, the RSC will be made up of the following voting members:

- 1) Regional Manager (will serve as chair of the committee)
- 2) Three local Judges having juvenile jurisdiction
- 3) Three local Directors in the Region
- 4) Two Family Case Manager Supervisors from the Region
- 5) Two Case Managers from the Region
- 6) Two licensed Foster Parents from the Region
- 7) One Guardian ad Litem/CASA from the Region
- 8) One Prosecuting Attorney or their designee in the Region
- 9) One resident of the county (who is at least 16 and less than 25 years of age, and who has received or is receiving services through funds provided, directly or indirectly, through DCS. This person will serve in a non-voting capacity.
- 10) The parent of a child who has received or is receiving services through funds provided, directly or indirectly through DCS. This person will serve in a non-voting capacity. (This is an optional member, not statutory)

The council is currently waiting until judges have been selected before proceeding with other voting members.

The selection of remaining membership will be appointed by the Director of the Department and based on recommendations from the Regional Manager as follows:

It has been suggested it would be inappropriate for the Local Directors to represent the same counties represented by the Judges having Juvenile Jurisdiction.

Supervisors will be selected by the Regional Manager after consideration of recommendations made by Local Directors. Supervisors cannot represent the same county as the Local Director unless agreed upon by all Local Directors and the Regional Manager.

Family Case Managers will be selected by the Regional manager after consideration of recommendations made by the Local Directors. Family Case Managers cannot represent the same county as Local Directors, unless agreed upon by all Local Directors and the Regional Manager.

Foster Parents will be selected by a Foster Parent Association, or membership (formal or informal) in the region. If there is not an association (formal or informal) the foster parent representative may be chosen in a manner determined by the members of the council that include Local Directors, Supervisors and Family Case Managers. It is suggested that each county Director nominate a foster parent and then ask those foster parents to meet and choose a representative.

The GAL/CASA representation should be made by a GAL/CASA association or membership in the region where the selection is made. If there is not an association, it is suggested that each County Director nominate a GAL/CASA , and ask those GAL/CASA to meet and choose among them, a representative. The intent is to ensure there is broad based representation bringing experience, common sense, advocacy and commitment to the Regional Services Council.

Judges will meet best selected by them in person, telephonic, email, etc and choose those who will serve as the voting members of the RSC. The selected names will be submitted to the Regional Manager and the Director of DCS. The designated Judge (s) may designate in writing a proxy to serve as a voting member of the Council if they are not available for a Council meeting.

Prosecuting Attorneys will also meet best selected by them in person, telephonic, email, etc. and choose those will serve as the voting members of the RSC. The selected names will be submitted to the Regional Manager and the Director of DCS. The designated Prosecuting Attorney may designate in writing a proxy to serve as a voting member of the Council if they are unavailable for a Council meeting.

Currently, members of the council include:

Judge Stephen Galvin, Monroe County Circuit Court
Judge Judy Stewart, Brown County Circuit Court
Judge Erik Allen, Greene County Circuit Court

Steve Adams, Director, Lawrence County and (Data Lead for Region 13)

Debbie Dailey, Director, Brown and Owen Counties

Terrie Decker, Director, Greene County

Caren Stoll, Supervisor, Monroe County (temporarily assigned)

Jack Maxwell, FCM, Lawrence County

Kelly Leonhard, CASA Director, Greene County

Angie Baugh, Foster Parent (Owen County)

Steve Adams, Director for Lawrence County is the Data Lead for Region 13. There are currently nine Practice Indicators that the region is judged on statewide. These indicators include: Trended Repeat Maltreatment, Visitations and Contacts Report, Finalized Adoption Rates and Reunification Rates, Length of Stay in Out of Home Placement, Sibling Placement Report, Average Number of Placement Moves, Locally Placed CHINS, CHINS Placements by County, and Initial Assessment - Use of Substitute Care.

The Regional Services Council shall also develop a Strategic Plan tailored to provide services targeted to meet the individual needs of children who are at risk. This strategy plan must be in place by 2010.

Public Information regarding updated information regarding House Bill 1001 with respect the Regional Services Council can be viewed at www.in.gov/dcs/.4177.htm

Community Partner:

Julie Miller with Ireland Home Based Services announced that Susan Ford has elected to go back to work with families in the field, and her position has been occupied by Shirley Pry.

Copies of the progress and operational expense reports were distributed to the council. As of July 1, 2008 there have been a total of 320 referrals received. The reports show 68 levels currently being serviced through Community Partner for Child Safety to assist 67 families.

Region 13 received a total of 13 referrals during the month of May and 26 for the month of June. Of these 10 came from Greene County, 2 from Lawrence County, 16 from Monroe, 11 from Owen and 0 from Brown.

From January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008, \$204,352.98 (47%) of the annual budget amount of \$435,793.50 was used. Julie Miller reports that they are on track and will enough money to get through the rest of the year. Higher utilities expenses in the months of February & March contributed to the use of additional hard service dollars.

IV B Update:

Jim Shively recently attended the July 11, 2008 Regional Management Team Meeting and gave an update of the process for the IV-B allocations. The new process is divided into three waves. The first part of the process is already in place, identifying what providers are available, and the cost of the services they provide. In wave two, providers must meet service standards and have received approval for contract in another region or county in wave one. Wave three will be for soliciting services currently being used and not covered by the existing service standards. Wave three will probably not be available until the end of 2008.

Providers who did not submit a proposal in March 2008, and that deliver a service for which there is a service standard may now submit a proposal at www.in.gov/dcs/3456.htm. The deadline for submitting is August 15, 2008.

The timeline for proposal evaluation is about 4-6 weeks – from August 15, 2008 to October 10, 2008.

Current county funds will be used until the end of the year. The timeline for new contract activation is January 1, 2009.

Proposals:

Debbie Dailey presented two proposals to the council for approval. The first MOA was between Aging and Community Services of South Central Indiana, Inc. and Brown County DCS. The amount requested is \$2,549.00 to be used to fund a Foster Grandparent program for the school year 2008-2009. The role of the Foster Grandparent is to be a positive role model assisting children to set realistic goals, providing praise and encouragement and helping the children make good choices in their lives.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal as stated. By majority, and show of hands, the council voted to approve the proposal as stated.

The second proposal presented was between Brown County High School and Brown County DCS. Funding of \$12,000 to fund a Alternative to Suspension Program will be provided through the DCS during the school year 2008-2009. Brown County High School will select an Alternative to Suspension Instructor to provide supervision in a classroom setting for children who meet the criteria for the program including tardiness, truancy, and discipline.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal as stated. By majority and show of hands, the council voted to approve the proposal as stated.

A \$6000 Prevention Grant was presented to the council for consideration by Terrie Decker of Greene County. The dollars would go to purchase concrete items that assist in the prevention and awareness of child abuse and neglect. These items would include smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, bug bombs, trash bags, socks, diapers, alarm clocks, personal hygiene items, outlet covers, baby monitors, gift cards, cribs, lice shampoo, alarms, informational literature, care sets, etc.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposal as stated. By majority and show of hands, the council voted to approve the proposal as stated.

Terrie Decker asked that Greene County be allowed to use Children and Family Services out of Knox County to provide Independent Living services and pay for these services out of Chaffey money. She is requesting Greene County and Region 13 be added to Children and Family Service's existing IV-B contract in Region 11. Greene County has requested an MOU from Raintree, Inc. to provide services through December, 2008. A motion was made & seconded to accept their requests. The council by show of hands voted to approve.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m., Friday, September 19, 2008.